

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 1 and ending on page 19, line 32 with the following paragraph:

Figs. 1a, 1b, and 1c are topological views of prior art metro access networks;

FIG. 1d shows the network of Fig. 1a with the addition of network managements;

Figs. 2a, 2b are diagrams of a portion of a prior art metro access network, comprising the path from a DSLAM through to one core network data router in a median complexity network such as that of Fig1b;

Figs. 2c, 2d show the management structures that overlay the networks of Figs. 2a, 2b respectively,

Figs. 2e, 2f show the transitions between each of the layers of the network as the traffic transits the paths of Figs. 2a, 2b respectively;

Fig. 3 is a diagram of a communications network in accordance with a first embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 4[[a]] shows communications control paths and the network management for the network of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a diagram depicting the topology of a communications network in accordance with a second embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 6 shows communications control paths in the network of Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 shows dual homed communications control paths in the network of Fig. 5 in accordance with a third embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 8 shows optical carrier paths in the network of Fig. 5;

Fig. 8a shows the transitions across the network of Fig. 5 in terms of the network layers utilized at each point;

Fig. 9 shows wavelength conversion of optical carriers in the network of Fig. 5;

Figs. 9a and 9b illustrate the communications layers corresponding to a path through the network of Fig. 9.

Fig. 10 is a diagram showing a portion of a first wavelength assignment plan usable for any of the above networks;

Fig. 11 is a diagram showing a portion of a second wavelength assignment plan usable for any of the above networks;

Fig. 12 is a schematic diagram showing a portion of the network of Fig. 5 in more detail;

Fig. 13 shows example photonic services in the network portion of Fig. 12;

Fig. 14 is a diagram depicting an example wavelength flow through the network portion of Fig. 12;

Fig. 15 shows example photonic services in the network portion of Fig. 14;

Fig. 16 shows a portion of the network of Fig. 5 in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the invention; and

Fig. 17 is a diagram depicting example packet flows through the network of Fig. 5.
